

Appl no. 10/522305
Reply to Action dated 1/31/2008
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REMARKS

Claim 2 has been amended. Basis for the Amendment is found on page 24, lines 13-15 and Figure 17. Claims 5 and 6 have been added. Basis for claim 5 is found on page 24, line 23 to page 25, line 5. Basis for claim 6 is found on page 25, lines 11-12 and Figure 17. Claims 1-6 remain pending. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application, as amended, are requested.

The Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 5-64056.

JP 5-64056 discloses an electric power steering apparatus which includes first and second aligned motors which drive a worm shaft which moves a worm gear which is fixedly attached to the rack shaft.

Claim 2 is directed to an electric power steering apparatus which requires two electric motors which are connected to the rack shaft through transmission mechanisms and a single ball screw. The Japanese reference does not disclose transmission mechanisms for the two electric motors. Further, the Japanese reference does not disclose a ball screw; particularly, a single ball screw with respect to the transmission mechanisms so as to connect the rack shaft and the two electric motors. As a result, the Japanese reference does not anticipate claim 2 or point to it. Claim 2 and the claims which depend from it are patentable.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are requested. Allowance of claims 2 and 5-6 at an early date is solicited. Claims 1 and 3-4 are presently withdrawn. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, Reg. 29,165, at (612)455-3802.



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Respectfully submitted,

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